

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6637

BILL NUMBER: HB 1222

NOTE PREPARED: Dec 19, 2008

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Notice to Voters of Provisional Ballots.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Bartlett

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

**FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL
DEDICATED
FEDERAL**

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: *Notification of Certain Voters-* The bill requires the circuit court clerk of a county that conducts an election in which a voter casts a provisional ballot or an absentee ballot that is treated as a provisional ballot to notify the voter not later than three days after election day concerning: (1) the reasons that the voter's ballot is being treated as a provisional ballot; (2) the actions that the voter must take in order to have the voter's ballot counted; (3) the deadline by which the voter must act to have the voter's ballot counted; and (4) the name, job title, address, and telephone number of an individual whom the voter may contact for additional information. The bill requires that the notice be sent by first class United States mail or given by another method that the circuit court clerk determines will provide actual notice to the voter.

Form Approved by Election Commission- The bill requires the notice to be in a form prescribed by the Election Commission.

Effective Date: July 1, 2009.

Explanation of State Expenditures: *Form Approved by Election Commission-* Form approval could be scheduled during a regular meeting of the Election Commission.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: *Notification of Certain Voters-* The impact on local expenditures is indeterminable, as the county clerk could choose two methods of notification to carry out this provision.

If every clerk chose to use first class U.S. mail, the aggregate expenditure could total approximately \$2,000

to \$2,500 every four-year general election cycle. The estimate assumes current trends on the number of provisional ballots cast per election cycle holds stable in coming years.

Current first class postage is \$0.27 per post card for a 3½-by-5-inch minimum to 4 1/4-by-6-inch maximum size. However, automated rates as low as \$0.19 per card could be available depending on the quantity of notices mailed.

Between presorted and single-piece rates the following table illustrates the costs to mail notices had the provisions of this bill been in effect in the prior election cycle.

Election	Number of Provisional Ballots Cast	Cost (Presorted at \$0.242)	Cost (Single-Piece at \$0.27)
2004 Presidential General	5,707	\$1,380	\$1,540
2006 non-Presidential General	3,873	\$937	\$1,046
Total (four-year General Election Cycle*)	9,580	\$2,317	\$2,586
*Note, Primary Provisional Ballot Data, unavailable.			

The impact ultimately, would be determined by the size of the notification form as approved by the Election Commission.

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Election Commission.

Local Agencies Affected: Circuit court clerks.

Information Sources: USPS; Indiana Office of Secretary of State website: <http://www.in.gov/sos/elections/>.

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